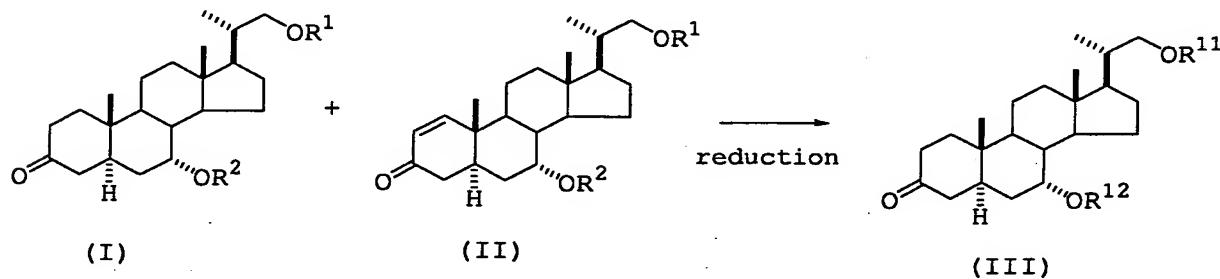


Abstract

The present invention relates to a method of producing 5 α -pregnane derivatives represented by the formula (III),
5 which is characterized by selectively reducing a carbon-carbon double bond of a 5 α -pregnane derivative represented by the formula (II) in a mixture of 5 α -pregnane derivatives represented by the formula (I) and the formula (II). According to the present invention, a method capable of producing 5 α -
10 pregnane derivatives useful as synthetic intermediates for squalamine, in a high yield from easily available raw materials, can be provided:



15 wherein R¹, R², R¹¹ and R¹² are each independently a hydrogen atom or a hydroxyl-protecting group.